

A messenger from Yarkand, who reached Ladak on the 15th June with letters, reports that the prohibition on the import of Indian tea into Chinese Turkestan has been cancelled. A Ladak trader, who received letters by the same mail, confirms the report. A notice, it appears, has been issued at Kilian, that Indian tea may be allowed to pass without hindrance, and that duty would be levied on it at Yarkand. The price of Indian tea in the Yarkand market is now nearly four times that current in Kangin.—Pioneer.

The Marquis of Tseng has lately thrown out a hint to his diplomatic colleagues which, if acted upon, will add a new feature to despatch-writing. In reply to the Imperial mission ordering him to proceed to St. Petersburg in connection with the Kulja affairs, he telegraphed to Berlin his acknowledgment in a couplet which, being translated, ran thus:—

"My knowledge is scant, and my powers are frail,
At the voice of the thunder I tremble and quail."

There is another steamer now building belonging to the Castle line, to be called the *Minard Castle*, and which is rapidly approaching completion. The *Minard Castle* is to be commanded by Captain Thomson, late in command of the *Britisher*. The *Minard Castle* is also to be a sister ship to the *Bethel Castle*, and, though carrying about 200 tons less cargo, will be considerably faster. For the Ocean Tea Race, there is a seventeen-knot steamer building for Messrs Skinner & Co., the owners of the line, which, when going at that rate, will consume only *six hundred tons* of coal daily, while, by reducing her speed by five knots, only 27 tons per day will be used. This last boat has not yet been named, though it is presumed that Captain Marshall of the *Louisa* will be in command of her.—Pioneer.

The *Diario de Manila* of the 31st July last, has the following appreciative paragraph concerning the latest fiscal reform in Spain:—

"Private interests never sleep. Since the appearance in the *Gaceta de Madrid* of the royal decree regarding the abolition of the tobacco monopoly, it is known that the merchants in Europe have marked this as a new era opened to them, and that the capitalists have already turned their eyes towards this corner of Oceania. The purchase of land can now be registered here in certain villages, as well as the despatch of intelligent commissioners to prepare for the first sowing under the new regime, and for the study of the trade in all its branches. We are at the dawn of a time of fertile official activity as regards the measures which more directly affect the development of the wealth of the country, and for this we must be thankful to the Home Government for the zeal and persistent interest taken in behalf of this distant Spanish Colony."

"Man of the Time" gives the following sketch of the new Under-Secretary for the Colonies:—

Courtenay, Leonard Henry, M.P., eldest son of Mr John Courtenay Courtenay, banker of Panama, and a member of the House of Commons for the City of London. He was born at Penryn on June 6, 1832. He was educated at the Regent House Academy in that town, under Mr Richard Baines, and afterwards privately under Mr L. R. Willm, M.D. According to a memoir of him in "Men of the West," he was for some time in the bank of Messrs Bolitho, Sons, and Co., in which concern his father is a partner. He went to St John's College, Cambridge, in 1851, and graduated B.A. as Second Wrangler in 1855, being bracketed first Smith's Prize, and a Fellow of his college. For some time he was engaged in private tuition at the university. In 1858 he was called to the bar at Lincoln's Inn. He was appointed in 1872 to the Chair of Political Economy at University College, London, and held that post until 1875, when he was elected to India in the winter of 1875-6, to succeed his father. For two years he was Examiner in Constitutional History in the University of London, (1873-75). In 1874 he contested Liskeard, but polled only 329 votes, against 344 for Mr J. H. St. John. He was elected M.P. for the City of London in 1876, and held that seat until the death of Mr Courtenay, when he was elected Dec. 22, 1876, polling 388 votes against 281 votes given to his opponent, Lieut-Col. Stirling. Mr Courtenay is an advanced Liberal, and in favour of the extension of the principle of proportional representation; and he is also in favour of an absolute security being given by legislation to agricultural tenants for compensation for their improvements. He has been a regular writer for the *Times* since 1864. In 1860 he published a pamphlet on "The Reform of the Poor Law," and in 1861 an article on "The Poor Law." He contributed a paper on the "Finance of the United States, 1861-67." He has been charged with appropriating the credit of Mr McCulloch's article on "Money," when writing for the last edition of the "Encyclopedia Britannica," an article on "Banking." The fact is that he revised the article and brought it down to recent times, and that he never asserted or professed that he had done otherwise.

AMONGST the passengers by the Messageries Maritimes steamer *Djemah* is Mr John Reid, the representative for China and Japan of Nobel's Explosive Company, who has just completed a very successful tour through China and Japan, in which latter place he has conducted experiments with dynamite before all the Government officials and the chief officials in the provinces; and has also introduced the new explosive by practical operations in the Kume, Sado, and other Government and private mines. He has come to China to show the superiority of dynamite as a blasting agent, to the Government officials in charge of arsenals, mines, and other works; and has visited the Kiangnan Arsenal, the Arsenal at Tientsin, the Kiangling Coal Mines, and the Arsenal at Ningbo. At each of these places, the experiments conducted by Mr Reid have been very successful, and the mandarins have been thoroughly impressed with the advantages to be gained by the use of dynamite, in preference to gunpowder, for blasting operations. He goes to Canton in a few days, and then to Pootoo, and at the latter place expects to complete his tour.

Police Intelligence.

(Before Frederick Stewart, Esq., Magistrate.)

Tuesday, August 9.

P. Gullyberry, a native of Ireland, was convicted of being drunk and incapable, and was sentenced to pay a fine of 20 cents or one day's imprisonment.

Mong Sze Chan was charged with stealing clothing to the value of \$15. It appeared from the evidence that defendant had been to a house along with

complainant, and during complainant's absence he had taken the opportunity of stealing this quantity of clothing.

Defendant said he paid his debts with the money he got from the pawning of the clothes.

He was sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

JOS. FIDGIN.

Three Chinese were charged with unlawfully making a bonfire in the public street. The defendants admitted having done so, and were each sentenced to pay a fine of \$2 or two days' imprisonment.

ASARUEI.

Lam Acht, charged with assaulting another Chinaman, was convicted on evidence and sentenced to pay a fine of \$3 or seven days' imprisonment with hard labour, and ordered to find personal security in the sum of \$20 to be of good behaviour for two months.

(Before H. E. Wedehouse, Esq., Police Magistrate.)

THE MANILA LOTTERY CASE.

Chan Aying was again before the Court today charged with keeping an agency for the sale of lottery tickets.

Mr Wotton again appeared for the defendant, and said it would be more convenient, if it could be explained whether it was intended to make any distinction between the Manila and the Hongkong Manila tickets.

The Magistrate said he was afraid he could not say.

Mr Wotton said this might go to shape his course. Could it not be ascertained? The Magistrate said the Captain Superintendent was absent, and he was perhaps the only one who knew about the matter.

Inspector Perry again entered the box: Before the Magistrate, witness said that what he meant by Hongkong Manila lottery tickets was that these were printed in Hongkong. On the tickets there were the names of various Chinese houses in this Colony. He did not know for a fact that these houses were Chinese. The tickets were not exactly the same as the Manila ones. The value of these tickets, witness thought, was \$1. The Wei Sing books were found in a cigar box.

By Mr Wotton:—Witness found a large number of the Wei Sing tickets in the top drawer of the money changer's stall and in some other places. He did not find tickets in the money-changer's stall nor in the street. Witness could not say that he had known this as a money changer's stall as it was a new building. Cigars were sold in the shop. The greatest portion of the Manila tickets were found in the safe. Witness could not take note of the double for which the tickets in the safe were for, because he could not read Spanish in which language the months were.

He did take particular notice that the tickets which had drawn prizes, were for June and July. He could not swear this. Witness did not know when the Manila tickets were printed in Manila. Witness seized the stall in the shop because it was used for gambling purposes. Witness did call it an implement of gambling, because it is used for holding the tickets. Witness considered that all the money sent for money for the purposes of gambling. Witness meant by actual use that he found the money in drawers along with tickets. In the box where the Wei Sing books were found there was no money. Witness would say that all the tickets found were in actual use for the purposes of gambling. Witness did not know that this shop sent a large number of tickets to the Treaty Ports. No Manila ticket was purchased in the shop for the purposes of this case so far as witness knew. Everything he heard that Manila tickets were sold in Hongkong, but did not know if from personal experience. Witness did not count the money he seized in the shop. He did this shortly after he got to the Police Station. None of the money was brought up in the constable's pocket, nor did he find any money in the safe. Witness found it in the safe. Defendant gave witness the keys, and the whole was locked up in his presence. Witness when he went to the shop did not expect to find Manila tickets; he only expected to find Chinese tickets. He expected to find some money in the safe. Witness found all the money in the safe.

Mr Wotton said that as the defendant was a banker, delay in this matter meant ruin for him. He understood that already \$80,000 had been paid out by him. Mr Wotton said he was proceeding with the case as speedily as possible. He could not help the delay. If defendant was hardly dealt with, he had his remedy by taking action against the police. To-morrow afternoon he (Mr Wotton) had two inquiries, and could not then take the matter, and it was also his day at the Magistrate's.

Mr Wotton said that whatever course was pursued delay would be most detrimental to his client. He asked to be allowed to issue a subpoena to the Spanish Consul.

At length, the informant in the case, said that on the day in question as he passed the Wei Sing shop he noticed a number of men round the stall, outside the shop. They were buying tickets. Witness also bought a ticket for which he paid 10 cents.

He handed this over to the inspector. He paid the 10 cents to the defendant. There were about eight or ten people there. Some of them were buying tickets. Witness had heard that tickets could be bought there. He lodged an information.

By Mr Wotton:—The tickets were publicly sold.

Mr Wotton said that his reason for calling the Spanish Consul was to prove that it was a foreign lottery.

Li Ayan deposed as to buying a ten-cent portion of a ticket, and gave evidence corroborative of the other informant.

This case the case for the prosecution.

Mr Wotton then said that he presumed that the police were not dealing in any way with Manila Lottery tickets, and that these tickets only came into their possession accidentally; that the present charge was not a charge against the defendant for selling Manila Lottery tickets, but simply a charge against him for selling what were termed Chinese Manila Lottery tickets. If his presumption was correct he did not intend to produce any evidence to contradict the sale of the latter tickets. He submitted that the Chinese Manila Lottery business was conducted on exactly the same principle as the Manila one, which was a lottery authorised by the law of Manila, and he did not think came within the meaning of the ordinance. Of course that was for his Worship to decide. He should like to see the ordinance.

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any steps to be taken in such cases must originate with the Attorney General.

Mr Wotton said he admitted the authority of the Manila Government, but did not know anything about the Spanish Government.

Mr Wotton said if it were authorised by the Manila Government, then that meant the Spanish Government.

Mr Wotton said that he might be so.

Mr Wotton said he would have to call the Spanish Consul to show it was so. He submitted that the present prosecution of persons found in possession of Manila tickets was exceedingly hard, and he might say almost unjust, if persons who got them here in large quantities should have the law sprung upon them in this manner. In dealing with people like the Chinese it was most necessary that they should have timely notice, which in this case he did not think they had had. He did not think the ordinance had ever been published in Chinese.

Mr Wotton, continuing, said even to the officials themselves, and in the sight of the authority which should have been exercised suppressing this traffic, and it did seem that, without any notice, persons who got them here in large quantities should have the law sprung upon them in this manner. In dealing with people like the Chinese it was most necessary that they should have timely notice, which in this case he did not think they had had. He did not think the ordinance had ever been published in Chinese.

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The Judge said it was a very difficult thing for the Court to protect fools. It was impossible to protect the world against fools. There had been no scrying out in this document, and he should certainly want evidence on a matter such as that.

The Hon. Ng Choy said the document was most suspicious.

The Judge asked witness a few questions. Witness swore that the document in question was made out before the goods were despatched. Attention was called to the date on the stamp.

The Judge said they had been careful about that; that stamping was an important part in such matters as the people often forgot about that little stamp in the corner.

The Judge examined witness as to whether he had sustained loss through the failure of the defendant to supply the boxes. The bills of lading of some of the shipments were produced, and these went against the defendant.

